

Open Channel

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 582



DEFINITION

Open Channel is constructing or improving a channel, either natural or artificial, in which water flows with a free surface.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of the practice is to provide discharge capacity required for flood prevention, drainage, other authorized water management purposes, or any combination of these purposes.

This practice does not apply to waterways, irrigation field ditches, diversions, surface drainage, field ditches, and other small

onfarm structures. It also does not apply to irrigation canals and laterals.

Installation of this practice requires that stability requirements are met, and that all natural resources evaluated for environmental impacts. Mitigating measures may be necessary when unavoidable natural resource damage is required to install the practice.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.